

Newsletter

Late Summer 2019

In this issue:

Surgery Extension	1
DNA	1
Flu vaccination	2
Raffle	2
Staff	3
Text messages	3
Diabetes Network	3
Adult Social Services	3

Surgery extension

As reported before, The Cottons application to extend the surgery has been approved by the NHS. An application for planning permission has been submitted to East Northants District Council, and their decision is expected shortly.

It is hoped that building work will start in the early part of next year, and should be completed by August.

There will be five additional consulting rooms, and an additional waiting area. The reception desk will be refurbished to improve disabled access.

Please be patient with any disruption that the building work may cause - it will be worth it in the end.

The plan shows the new extension, in green.



The Cottons
Medical Centre
01933 623327

The main surgery
telephone line is
closed from
12:30 to 1:30pm

Appointments can
be made & repeat
prescriptions can
be ordered via the
practice Web site.

----- Flu Jabs - see page 2 -----

DNA

DNAs have settled down again, after a recent upward movement, at 68. This is still not a good show, however.

Please do try to keep appointments or cancel them if you cannot attend. Wasted appointments could be used by someone in need.

Flu Vaccinations

Clinics for Flu Vaccinations will be held on 26th October and 2nd November, these are Saturdays. You can just turn up (between 08:30 and 11:00) to get your jab, if you fall into one of these designated vulnerable groups:

- People aged over 65
- Pregnant women
- Children aged 2 and 3 (on 31st August)
- Children in primary school (in school)
- Frontline health and care workers
- People with certain medical conditions, such as:
 - diabetes
 - chronic respiratory, heart, liver and kidney diseases
 - neurological conditions such as Parkinson's, MS, and motor neurone
 - weakened immune systems due to HIV, steroids or chemotherapy
 - and some other conditions



If you have any questions about flu jabs please enquire at the surgery or read more information here:

www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/who-should-have-flu-vaccine/#flu-vaccine-for-people-with-medical-conditions

People aged over 65 can also get a flu vaccination by appointment on Thursday mornings.

PPG Raffle

At the upcoming flu vaccination clinics, we will be running a raffle. Proceeds of the raffle go toward something to benefit patients. In the past we have used the money raised to buy medical equipment for the surgery.



So, while you are queueing to get your flu jab, why not buy a raffle ticket or three! Lots of lovely prizes!

Just please **remember to fetch money** with you - a pound or two will do.

Staff

Dr. Olyuniyi has been with the practice for a year now, and is continuing as a salaried GP.

The practice has new registrar, and it is hoped that they will join the practice as a salaried GP in August 2020.



Text messages

The surgery are now using a system called Chain SMS for sending information by text to patients. The new system means the surgery can be more proactive with communications.

Some examples of how it might be used:

- Reminders (such as prescription ready)
- Responding to simple queries (such as about medication)
- Advising you about phone calls
- Sending advice at end of a consultation



Please ensure that the surgery has your up-to-date phone number.

Northamptonshire Diabetes Network

This is a series of public meetings for providers, patients and carers to be informed and involved in shaping local diabetes care.

Next meeting is on Tuesday 22nd October, 13:30 to 15:30, at Moulton Community Centre, Sandy Hill Lane, Northampton, NN3 7AX There is free parking.

Social Services for Adults

Northamptonshire Adult Social Services are asking for input from you as to how adult social care can be improved, and Healthwatch are assisting with this. If you have current or recent experience (within 2 years) of adult social services, including family and friends who have cared for people receiving social care, you can share your experience.

Please complete a short survey to give your views and experience.

www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/HWNNASS

healthwatch
Northamptonshire



Listening to patients' opinions

The Patient Participation Group exists to provide feedback to the Practice on patients' views, ideas and suggestions. We also do other things like fund-raising, surveys, and so on.

New members to the PPG are welcome, and people can:

- attend meetings (6pm at the Cottons Medical Centre, every 6/8 weeks),
- register to receive information via e-mail, if unable to attend meetings.

If you would like to find out more information about the Patient Participation Group (PPG) please email ppgcottons@gmail.com or ask the receptionist.

NHS Choices feedback/reviews

Please consider leaving a review of The Cottons Medical Centre on NHS Choices. Feedback does help to improve services.

Go to www.nhs.uk and choose the 'Find local services' option, or direct to: <http://www.nhs.uk/Services/GP/ReviewsAndRatings/DefaultView.aspx?id=38292>

Northamptonshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust run support groups, clinics and so on. Here is a Web page giving a list of hospitals, clinics, cafes, etc. run by NHFT: <http://www.disabledgo.com/organisations/northamptonshire-healthcare-nhs-foundation-trust/main>

Surgery telephone number	01933 623327
Practice Web site	www.thecottonsmedicalcentre.co.uk
Make an appointment or order a prescription	Go to Web site
When surgery : For life-threatening conditions	Phone 999
is closed For urgent medical assistance	Phone 111
Get mobile phone reminders	Register your number with receptionist.

"Doctor, doctor, will I be able to play the violin after the operation?"

"Yes, of course..."

"Great! I never could before!"



The PPG is not a route for administrative or clinical complaints. Our role is to work with the practice to help facilitate the services offered and make improvements. Complaints should go to the practice management.